

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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New Technical Requirements for Wood Products

Report Categories:

Wood Products

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Report Highlights:

The Portuguese Ministry of Agriculture (MADRP) has issued new guidelines for the heat treatment of wood and wood package materials with the aim of better avoiding the dispersal of the pine wood nematode (*Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*).

General Information:

According to the phytosanitary legislation in force in Portugal, and with the aim of avoiding the dispersal of the pine wood nematode, wood and wood package materials from coniferous trees must be submitted to the heat treatment described in FAO International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No 15 on “Guidelines for regulating wood packaging material in international trade”, before shipment to the Autonomous Regions of Azores and Madeira, to other Member States of the European Union or to third countries.

Despite efforts from governmental agencies to enforce of this standard, and the corresponding heat treatment to be applied, some contaminated lumber batches have been intercepted lately in which the nematode was present. To achieve greater efficiency in the process and to avoid future interception in other Member States or trading partners, the Ministry of Agriculture has changed the technical requirements for the treatment of wood (www.dgadr.pt). On the 23 of July MADRP issued an information sheet stating that from this date on, only treatments that comply with the new conditions [Regulation No 1460/2009] will be validated.

New Requirements

1 – Wood from coniferous trees (pine and other resinous trees) sawed into logs or slates, posts, etc.:

- Heat treatment (56°C at the wood’s core for 30 minutes) performed by one of the registered companies, authorized to carry out the treatment in conformity with the technical requirements established;
- Wood sent with the official document making proof of the treatment:
 - To other Member States, the Azores and Madeira -Phytosanitary passport type E with every batch of wood

Ministério da
Agricultura,
Desenvolvimento
Rural e das Pescas

DGADR
Direção-Geral
de Agricultura e
Desenvolvimento Rural

PASSAPORTE FITOSSANITÁRIO – CE

NOME BOTÂNICO: Pinus L. PORTUGAL

Nº DE REGISTO: Nº DE SÉRIE: E

QUANTIDADE: Nº LOTE:

SEMANA / ANO RP

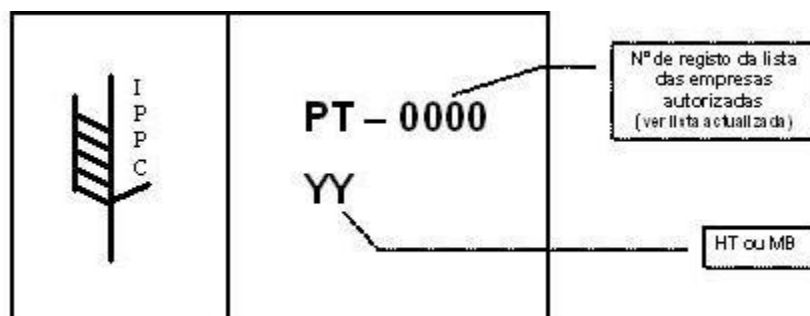
- To third countries – Phytosanitary certificate

2 – Wood packages – boxes (except those entirely made of wood with thickness not superior to 6mm), bins, crates, casks and akin packages, pallets of wood, separators and support:

- Heat treatment (56°C at the wood’s core for 30 minutes) performed by one of the registered companies, authorized to carry out the treatment in conformity with the technical requirements

established;

- Packages sent to EU countries as well as third countries, marked with the official certificate of treatment – mark (by ink or fire) readable, permanent, not transmissible, placed in a visible place, in at least two opposed sides of the material.



* in the first square: No of registry of the company in the authorized companies' list

Packages made from coniferous wood, fabricated or repaired after 1 January 2010, must be treated and marked before being traded, even if their destiny is in Portugal Continental.

Packages entirely made of veneer, ply wood, particle panels (OSB), medium density fiberboard (MDF), etc., that use glue, heat or pressure, or a combination of these in their making, are exempt from treatment and marking.

3 – Isolated bark of conifers

- Heat treatment performed by one of the registered companies, authorized to carry out the treatment in conformity with the technical requirements established;
- Bark sent alongside official certificate of treatment:
 - To EU Member States, the Azores and Madeira - Phytosanitary passport type E with every batch of wood (inserted and riveted)
 - To third countries: Phytosanitary certificate issued by the Phytosanitary inspector.

4 – Chips, particles, waste, or trimmings of coniferous wood

Since there are no EU approved technical specifications for treatment, it is forbidden to send chips, particles, waste, or trimmings of coniferous wood outside Portugal continental.

For further information concerning previous information sheets, registry and auditing of companies authorized to treat wood please see <http://www.dgadr.pt/>

